

County Snapshot

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San Diego County is the southern-most county in California, encompassing 4,280 square miles. The county is bordered by Mexico to the south, Orange and Riverside counties to the north, and Imperial County to the east. Seventy miles of Pacific Ocean coastline borders on the west.

A projected population of 3,917,000 by the year 2020 will amount to an increase of 33 percent over the current population. San Diego is a growing, thriving county.

The 1999 annual average statistics show the civilian labor force for San Diego to be 1,358,200 with an unemployment rate of 3.1 percent. This is significantly lower than the state's unemployment rate of 5.2 percent for the same year.

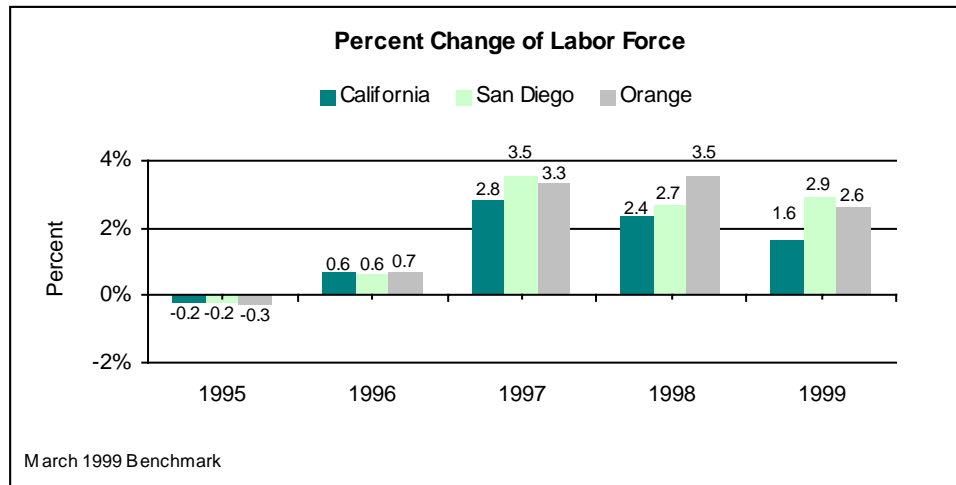
Services is the largest industry division in the county, accounting for 32.7 percent of the total employment. Other significant industries providing employment are retail trade at 17.6 percent, and government, which makes up 17.2 percent of the total. Most of the employment in government is in the local public education sector.

Most of the jobs in San Diego's future nonfarm wage and salary employment are expected to be in the same three industry sectors. Services, the fastest growing industry, is projected to add 92,300 jobs during the 1997-2004 forecast period, a growth of 27.2 percent. Retail trade is projected to grow by 12.9 percent and government will add 17,600 jobs, a growth of 9.2 percent.

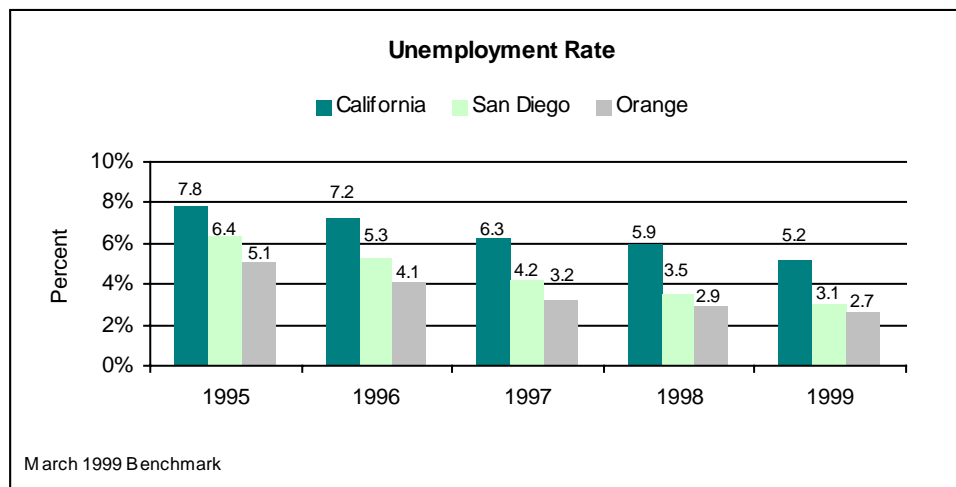
Job growth creates opportunity and is considered to be one measure of economic health. San Diego County continues to record job growth and lower unemployment rates.

LABOR FORCE

In 1996, a growth trend began in San Diego County. The recorded growth in 1999 was 2.9 percent. Both San Diego and neighboring Orange County outpaced the state in growth of the civilian labor force. San Diego's civilian labor force increased 10.1 percent between 1995 and 1999.

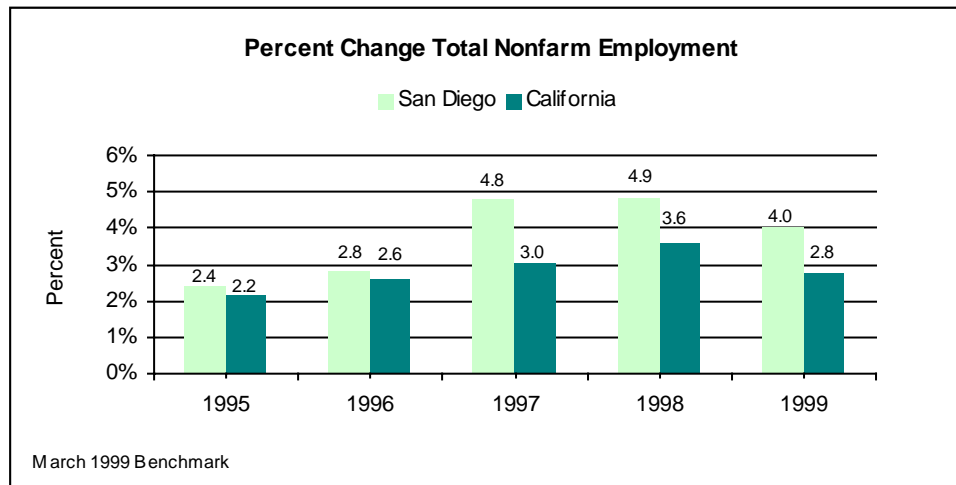


Since 1995, annual average unemployment rates are lower for San Diego and Orange counties than for the state, indicative of increasing employment opportunities in the area. San Diego County's unemployment rate was 3.1 percent in 1999, compared to 5.2 percent for the state.

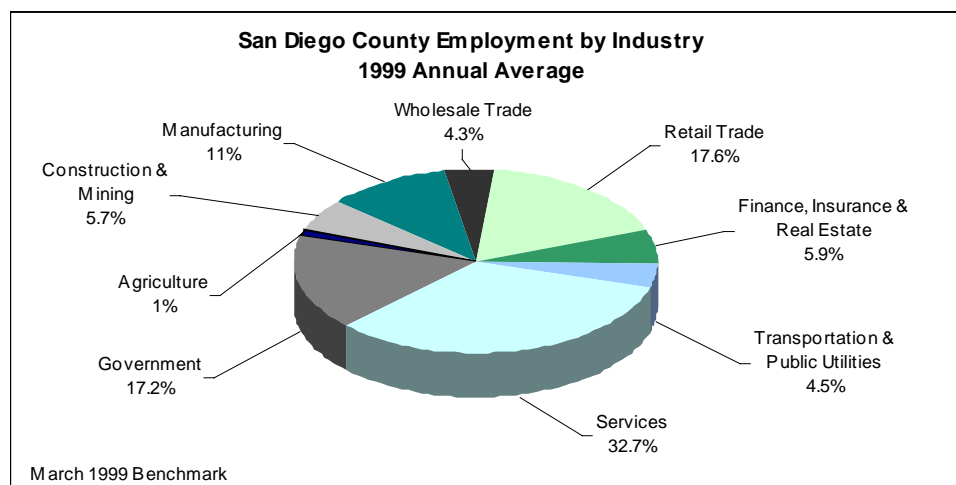


INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

San Diego County nonfarm wage and salary employment has shown strong growth since 1995. Payroll employment in 1999 grew by 44,700 jobs or 4 percent. Job growth in the services industry accounted for 45.6 percent of the growth with the major concentration of new jobs being in business services.



In 1999, services, retail trade and government dominated San Diego's total employment. Projections in nonfarm employment indicate that the same three industries will continue to grow, and will account for more than 72 percent of the 186,700 job growth forecast for the period 1997 to 2004.



OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Demographic trends, shifts in demands for products or services, technological innovations and changes in the way business is conducted are some of the variables that drive employment in an occupation up or down. Also, occupations that have large employment and high turnover rates generally provide the most job openings. San Diego County is projected to have many employment opportunities in the high turnover occupations.

Associated Occupations	SERVICES 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 27.2%
	Guards and Watch Guards – 3780 job openings. Stand guard at entrance gates or walk about premises of businesses, industrial establishments, or private residences to prevent theft, violence or infractions of rules. Direct patrons or employees, control traffic. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.49
	General Managers, Top Executives – 2580 job openings. Include both top and mid-level managers whose duties and responsibilities are too diverse and general in nature to be classified in any functional or line area of management and administration. Work Experience, plus a Bachelor's or higher. Median Hourly Wage - \$33.17
	General Office Clerks – 2490 job openings. Performs a wide variety of tasks. Clerical duties may be assigned in accordance with the office procedures of the individual establishments and may include a combination of bookkeeping, typing, stenography, office machine operation, and filing. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$9.90
	Janitors, Cleaners-Except Maids – 2470 job openings. Keep buildings in clean and orderly condition; perform heavy cleaning duties such as operating motor driven cleaning equipment, mopping floors, washing walls and glass, and removing rubbish. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.66
	Computer Engineers – 2180 job openings. Assist in the selection and installation of computer systems by providing technical advice and support. Bachelor's Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$30.80
Associated Occupations	RETAIL TRADE 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 12.9%
	Salespersons, Retail – 5650 job openings. Get the customer interested by describing the merchandise and showing how it is used. May also order merchandise, stock shelves, mark price tags, take inventory and prepare displays. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.50
	Cashiers – 2880 job openings. Handle cash and credit payments, make change, give receipts, account for all payments, and perform related clerical duties. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.97
	Food Preparation Workers – 2240 job openings. Keep kitchen work areas clean and orderly, keep restaurant equipment and utensils clean, move supplies and wash dishes, trays, pots and pans used in cooking and serving. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.19
	Combined Food Preparation and Service Workers – 2100 job openings. Do both food preparation and food service. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$5.97
	Food Service And Lodging Managers – 1100 job openings. Plan, organize, direct, control, or coordinate activities of an organization or department that serves food and beverages and/or provides lodging and other accommodations. Work Experience. Median Hourly Wage - \$11.31
Associated Occupations	GOVERNMENT 1997 – 2004 Projected Growth 9.2%
	General Office Clerks – 560 job openings. Performs a wide variety of tasks. Clerical duties may be assigned in accordance with the office procedures of the individual establishments and may include a combination of bookkeeping, typing, stenography, office machine operation, and filing. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$9.90
	Systems Analysts, Electronic Data Processor – 510 job openings. Analyze business, scientific, and technical problems for application to electronic data processing systems. Bachelor's Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$24.93
	Corrections Officers and Jailers – 500 job openings. Guard inmates in penal or rehabilitative institutions in accordance with established regulations and procedures. May guard prisoners in transit. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$20.27
	Police Patrol Officers – 270 job openings. Maintain order, enforce laws and ordinances, protect life and property in an assigned patrol district or beat. Patrol on foot or in a vehicle; investigate accidents; apprehend, arrest and process prisoners; and give evidence in court. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$19.03
	Fire Fighters – 140 job openings. Control and extinguish fires, protect life and property, maintain equipment as employees of city township, State or Federal Government. Long-term on-the job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$13.98

This **County Snapshot** is a product of:
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Labor Market Information Division
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